

What is Claimed is:

1. An image output apparatus, comprising:
an image reading section for reading an image
on a document and converting the image into image
5 data;

an image storing section for storing the
image data read by the image reading section;

an image output section for outputting the
image corresponding to the document on the basis
10 of the image data stored in the image storing
section;

an index recognizing circuit for
image-recognizing, when an index sheet carrying
index information is read by said image reading
15 section, the index information on the index sheet;
and

an index registering circuit for registering
the index information recognized by the index
recognizing circuit and corresponding storage area
20 designation information for designating a storage
area in said image storing section, associated with
each other; and

a circuit for storing an image data
representing a document which has been read by said
25 image reading section subsequently to an index

sheet in a storage area, in said image storing section, to be designated by a storage area designation information associated with said index information.

5 2. The image output apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

 a circuit for overwriting, when the index information recognized by said index recognizing circuit has already been registered by said index
10 registering circuit, an image data representing a document which has been read by said image reading section subsequently to the index sheet on the storage area, in said image storing section which is to be designated by the storage area designation
15 information associated with the index information.

 3. The image output apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

 an index image output instruction accepting section for accepting an index image output
20 instruction for outputting a document image corresponding to an index information carried on an index sheet, and

 an index image output control circuit for reading out, when said index recognizing circuit
25 recognizes the index information in a state where

the index image output instruction is accepted by the index image output instruction accepting section, the image data, in said image storing section, to be designated by the storage area designation information associated with the
5 recognized index information, and causing the image output section to output the image corresponding to the image data.

4. The image output apparatus according to
10 claim 1, further comprising

an index sheet issue instruction accepting section for accepting an instruction to issue the index sheet, and

an index sheet output control circuit for
15 outputting the index sheet to said image output section in response to the acceptance of the instruction to issue the index sheet by the index sheet issue instruction accepting section.